

Under Secretary for Science
Washington, DC 20585

The Honorable Michael Griffin
Administrator
National Aeronautics
and Space Administration
300 E. Street, SW
Washington, D.C. 20546-0001


Dear Mr. Administrator,

It gives me pleasure to forward to you the scientific panel report of the Alpha Magnetic Spectrometer (AMS) Review, organized and held under the auspices of the Department of Energy (DOE). It was constituted as one of our blue ribbon panels, chaired by Barry Barish of Caltech. I think you will find results of the review very interesting, demonstrating again the value of this experiment.

AMS is an important mission for DOE, not only for the insights it will give us on the nature of our galaxy and information on cosmic rays and astrophysics, but the distinct possibility that this highly capable and sensitive instrument could lead to fundamental new discoveries. We understand the difficult constraints that NASA works under to execute all the competing missions vying for a place on the Space Shuttle. We continue to support AMS for its scientific potential and strong international cooperation, and we do appreciate that NASA is allocating the necessary integration funding for AMS even though AMS is not currently manifested on the Space Shuttle.

If you have any further questions, please contact me or Dr. Robin Staffin, Associate Director, Office of High Energy Physics at 301-903-3624.

Sincerely,


Raymond L. Orbach

Enclosure



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